

# Public Document Pack



<b>MEETING:</b>	Dearne Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Monday, 17 January 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## AGENDA

- 1 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

### Minutes

- 2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 25th November, 2021 (Dac.17.01.2022/2) *(Pages 3 - 4)*

### Items for Information

- 3 Dearne Area Council Financial Update (Dac.17.01.2022/3) *(Pages 5 - 8)*

### Items for Decision

- 4 Dearne Area Council Commissioning Update (Dac.17.01.2022/4) *(Pages 9 - 10)*

### Ward Alliances

- 5 Notes from the Dearne Ward Alliances (Dac.17.01.2022/5) *(Pages 11 - 16)*
- 6 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Dac.17.01.2022/6) *(Pages 17 - 20)*

### Items for Discussion

- 7 Community Listening Report - Craig Taylor (Dac.17.01.2022/7) *(Pages 21 - 32)*

To: Chair and Members of Dearne Area Council:-

Councillors Noble (Chair), Cain, Coates, Danforth, Gardiner and Gollick

Area Council Support Officers:

Paul Castle, Dearne Area Council Senior Management Link Officer  
Claire Dawson, Dearne Area Council Manager  
Rachel Payling, Head of Service, Stronger Communities  
Peter Mirfin, Council Governance Officer  
Cath Bedford, Public Health Principal - Communities

Please contact Peter Mirfin on email [governance@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:governance@barnsley.gov.uk)

Friday, 7 January 2022

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<b>MEETING:</b>	Dearne Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Thursday, 25 November 2021
<b>TIME:</b>	9.30 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Meeting Room 3, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Noble (Chair), Cain, Coates, Danforth and Gollick

**Attending Virtually** Councillor Gardiner

### 32 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

### 33 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 15th November, 2021 (Dac.25.11.2021/2)

The meeting received the minutes from the previous meeting of Dearne Area Council.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Dearne Area Council meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 34 Neighbourhood Engagement Officer (Dac.25.11.2021/3)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item. It was noted that each of the six Area Councils had Neighbourhood Engagement Officers. These had been employed on fixed term contracts. The posts supported businesses, groups and residents in line with up to date covid guidance.

Members heard that, within the Dearne area, the role had become integral to the time and in addition to the covid specific work undertaken had also led on a significant number of added value pieces of work. These included updating community notice boards, mapping business in the area, developing 'feature Fridays' which served to promote local businesses, working with the Housing Officer to address unsightly houses and gardens, supporting pop-up Police stations, organising first aid courses, developing a mental health resource pack and developing the Best Bar None scheme in the area, amongst other things.

The report proposed allocating funding to extending the post for a further two years, with the second year being subject to funding availability, performance and the need for the post.

Members were very supportive of the proposal, noting the positive impact the officer had made within the Dearne, going above and beyond.

**RESOLVED** that approval be given to extend the Neighbourhood Engagement Officer Post for two years from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2022 until 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024, at a cost of

£33,500 per year, with the second year subject to performance, availability of finance and continued need for the post.

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Chair

**BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**DEARNE AREA COUNCIL 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**Report of the  
Dearne Area Council Manager**

**Finance**

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update members regarding the Dearne Area Councils financial position.

**2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 That members note the current financial position and the impact on future budgets.

**3.0 Area Council Financial update**

**3.1 Committed spend 2021/22**

The Dearne Area Councils budget for 2021/22 was £200,000 and with a carryover of £8,783.34 from the last financial year resulting in a starting budget of £208,783.34. The Dearne Area Council have committed £175,000 on four commissions and allocated finances into the Dearne Development Fund and extended the housing officer post at a cost of £8,441 leaving £25,342.34 in the original Dearne Area Council budget to spend on priorities. The Area Council also have an additional £31,638 from the practical support grant, bringing the total to £56,980.34 to carry over into the next financial year.

Assuming the allocation for 2022/23 remains the same the total allocation will be £256,980.34. Finances are already committed to the following services employment and skills, environment, education and volunteering, social inclusion and the housing and cohesion, neighbourhood and engagement officer posts. The amount allocated to these services is £213,401 leaving £43,579.34 to spend on Dearne area priorities during the 2022/23 financial year.

**3.2 2021/22 Dearne Development Fund**

The Dearne Area Council had an allocation of £5,378.41 remaining in the Dearne development fund budget. At the Dearne Area Council on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May, Dearne elected members allocated a further £30,000 to the Dearne Development Fund. Dial have been allocated £10,235 to continue their support until December 2022. CAB have also been successful in gaining

£8,140 to support residents for a further year. A further £3,000 was granted as a contribution towards the Bounce into Summer event. Therefore the Dearne development fund remaining allocation is £14,003.41.

See Appendix 1 for financial breakdown

4.0

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1: Financial update

**Officer**

Claire Dawson

Dearne Area Council Manager

**Tel:**

01226 775106

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## Appendix One: Financial Update

Area Council Spend	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Base allocation	£200,000	£200,000	£200,000	
Carry forward	£8,783.34	£56,980.34	£43,579.34	
Total allocation for year	£208,783.34	£256,980.34	£243,579.34	
Employment and skills	-£33,000	-£33,624	-£33,624	-£33,624
Housing and Cohesion Officer	-£8,441	-£33,277		
Dearne Clean & Tidy	-£85,000	-£85,000		
Dearne Development Fund	-£30,000			
Social inclusion	-£27,000	-£28,000	-£28,000	-£28,000
NEO post		-£33,500	-£33,500	
Total spend (actual)	£183,441	£213,401		
Practical support grant	+£31,638.00			
Overall allocation remaining	£56,980.34	£43,579.34	£147,703.34	

### Dearne Development Fund

The projects below were paid for out of the 2020/2021/22 financial year.

Carry over from the last financial year		£3,650.68	
Approved at the Area Council on the 27 <sup>th</sup> of July 2020		£28,000	£31,650.68
Additional financial hardship grant		£10,000	£41,650.68
2020/21 Organisation	Duration of funds	Amount	Total allocation remaining
DIAL	December 2020-2021	£10,151	£31,499.68
CAB	October 2020-2021	£8,072	£23,427.68
Thurnscoe Community Plaza	Jan-March 2021	£10,000	£13,427.68
Highgate outdoor improvement	Jan -Feb 2021	£2,000	£11,427.68
Astrea Academy THRIVE	June 2021-June 2022	£11,400	£27.68
Additional money into Dearne budget		+£14,951.58	£14,979.26
2021/22 Organisation	Duration of funds	Amount	Total allocation remaining
TADS	April 2021-March 2022	£9,600.85	£5,378.41
Approved at the Area Council 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2021		£30,000	£35,378.41
DIAL	Jan 2022-Dec 2022	£10,235	£25,143.41
CAB	October 2021- October 2022	£8,140	£17,003.41

Goldthorpe Development group	August 2022	£3,000	£14,003.41
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**BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL****DEARNE AREA COUNCIL 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022****Report of the  
Dearne Area Council Manager****Commissioning update****1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is for members to receive an update with regards Dearne Area Council commissioned services.

**2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 That members receive the updates on the Dearne Area Council commissions.
- 2.2 That members approve the procurement timeline for the social inclusion service.

**3.0 Area Council commissions****3.1 Social inclusion service**

The current service provided by B: friend ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022. On the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2021 the Dearne Area Council agreed that social inclusion remained a priority for the area and would go out to tender for a service that would meet the needs of the most vulnerable. This service would be procured for three years but reviewed by the Area Council every year.

The specification was agreed at the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 and all the relevant paperwork is now complete. The procurement timeline is as follows:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>
Finalise tender docs with Service	01/04/2022
Finalise contract with Legal/Service	08/04/2022
Publication of Tender	15/04/2022
Clarification Questions Deadline	06/05/2022
Submission Deadline	13/05/2022
Evaluation	w/c 16/05/2022
Moderation & draft letters	w/c 16/05/2022
Issue Intention to Award Letters	20/05/2022

Standstill Period Ends	30/05/2022
Contract Award	31/05/2022
Contract Start date	01/07/2022

It is recommended that members approve this procurement timeline.

### 3.2 **Housing & Cohesion Officer**

The Dearne Area Council had approved the housing and cohesion officer post until the end of March 2023. Amendments have now been made to the service level agreement and signed off by the Area Chair, Area Manager and Group Leader for Housing Management, Regulation & Service Improvement.

### 3.3 **Assisting employment and skills**

At the Dearne Area Council meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September 2021 members approved the procurement of the employment and skills commission. A moderation meeting was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2021 which consisted of the Procurement Team, Area Chair and Area Manager. The scoring of those submissions was based on the questions set during the tender process. The scoring was calculated, and the contract was awarded to Dearne Electronic Community Village for three years.

### 3.4 **Neighbourhood and engagement officer role**

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2021 members of the Dearne Area Council approved a further two years for the Neighbourhood and Engagement Officer role. This role is now in place until the end of March 2024.

### 3.5 **Twigg's**

Twigg's have fourteen months left on the Environment, Education, and Volunteer Service. A workshop with members will be arranged to discuss future priorities.

<b>Officer</b>	<b>Tel:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
Claire Dawson	01226 775106	17 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
Dearne Area Council Manager		

**BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Dearne Area Council Meeting:**

**Report of Dearne Area  
Council Manager**

**Dearne Area Ward Alliance Notes**

**1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 This report appraises the Dearne Area Council of the progress made by each Ward in relation Ward Alliance action plans and meeting the ward priorities.

**2.0 Recommendation**

2.1 That the Dearne Area Council receives an update on the progress of the Dearne Ward Alliance for information purposes. Members are reminded of requirement for Ward Alliance minutes to be received by the Area Council.

**3.0 Introduction**

3.1 This report is set within the context of decisions made on the way the Council is structured to conduct business at Area, Ward and Neighbourhood levels (Cab.21.11.2012/6), Devolved Budget arrangements (Cab16.1.2013/10.3), Officer Support (Cab.13.2.2013/9) and Communities and Area Governance Documentation (Cab.8.5.2013/7.1). This report is submitted on that basis.

**4.0 Ward Alliance**

4.1 Due to staff illness no Dearne South Ward Alliance meetings have taken place since the last Area Council meeting, however the Ward Alliance members were invited to a shared Christmas get together online with Dearne North Ward Alliance members on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 no formal meeting was held just a quiz and interactive fun.

4.2 The Dearne North Ward Alliance took place virtually on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021 with guest speaker Adam from Twiggs giving a brief update on future projects and their work covered in 2021 followed by Q&A.

Finance - No applications were submitted however there was a recredit from Shaw Foundation as the equipment was no longer needed. Marie advised the Ward Alliance on the success on their projects so far and thanked the Ward Alliance members for their contributions.

Darryl had previously shared all the future events over Christmas which then followed by group updates given by the ward alliance members with dates for diaries.

A Covid19 update was shared this update included the latest infection rates, new cases, local drop-in clinics, and vaccination points.

A reminder for the new area priorities for 2022 was discussed with members all updated on the completion of the action plan to be worked through in the New Year. Individual meeting requests will be sent out in January 2022 to ensure all WA members have the chance to give their input from their group or as an individual.

An informal online get together was held on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 with a quiz, interactive fun and celebration for the hard work and dedication of all the Ward Alliance volunteers from both Wards.

- 4.3 The reporting into the Dearne Area Council for information, of the Ward Alliance, is in line with the approved Council protocols. Notes are for information only.

#### **Appendix 1: Dearne North ward Alliance meeting notes**

**Officer Contact:**  
Claire Dawson

**Tel. No:**  
01226 775106

**Date:**  
17<sup>th</sup> January 2022

# Dearne Ward Alliance

## VIRTUAL MEETING NOTES

Meeting Title:	Dearne North Ward Alliance
Date & Time:	16 <sup>th</sup> November 2021

Attendees	Apologies
Cllr Alan Gardiner (Chair) – Elected Member Cllr Wendy Cain – Elected member Charlotte Williams – Station House Community Association – (Treasurer) Derek Bramham – Big Local Thurnscoe Jackie Kenning – Salvation Army Peter Shields – Dearne Memorial Group Pauline Phillips – Thurnscoe Flower Park volunteer Glennis Lingard – resident Sue Bellamy – resident Marie Sinclair – Community Development Officer – Dearne Area Team Jenny Yates - Community Development Officer – Dearne Area Team Guest speaker & update from Twiggs by Adam	Cllr Annette Gollick – Elected Member Sue Miller – The Hill Primary School Gillian Totty – Community Engagement Officer, Berneslai Homes Fiona O Brien BMBC Principal Towns Teresa Williams BMBC Principal Towns Darryl Hand – NEO Neighbourhood Engagement Officer – Dearne Area Team

### 1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Cllr Gardiner welcomed everybody to the meeting

### 2. **Apologies** - See above.

### 3. **Update from Twiggs**

Adam gave a brief update from Twiggs schedule of works and how the Ward Alliance members could assist in volunteering or highlight any hotspots in their areas.

### 4. **Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising**

MS thanked WC, GL, PP and CW for all their help at the Autumn Fair on the Embankment. The event was a huge success with between 600 – 800 people attending. All those that had stalls did well and commented on what an excellent and well organised event it was.

### 5. **Finances – no applications submitted**

#### **Dearne North Ward Alliance – MS**

The Shaw Alliance no longer need the money awarded to them as Darryl and Jack now both have other full-time jobs. They have therefore given back the funding awarded to them to be used for other projects in the area. It was commented on how kind this was of them and what a great job their foundation had done for the past 12/18 months.

Thurnscoe East community Notice board on Hanover Street play park has now been installed and updated at a cost of £1380.00 leaving a balance of £3,308.92 to be spent up until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

#### **Dearne North working funds – CW**

Mental Health & Wellbeing - £1500 allocated 2021 so far £1110.55 spent - balance £389.45

Healthy Holidays - £1400 allocated 2019 so far £164.00 spent - balance £1236.00

Community Assets & green space £1500 allocated 2019 so far £740 spent - balance £760.00

As Dearne South Ward Alliance don't have online banking and CW is on leave from 9<sup>th</sup> Dec it was agreed that DNWA would pay the full invoice for The Toilet company and then invoice DSWA for £42.00 in the New Year.

It was mentioned that Catherine Slingsby who had made the poppies for the Embankment was wanting an industrial stapler to attach poppies onto an artificial grass carpet for next year. It was suggested that Wickes, B&Q or locally Lloyds or Terry's might do one for around £10 - £20. JK suggested that she borrow theirs first to make sure it does the job she wants.

## **6. Group Updates**

### **6.1 Big Local Thurnscoe (Derek Bramham)**

There is a meeting on Thursday morning with Freestyle and the contractors. The build is due to start on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. There has been a slight delay as there has been an issue with the water and drainage. This has meant that it is now not possible for there to be a café on site as it was going to cost £100,000s to install the correct drainage for this. The proposal therefore is for a chemical toilet on site and solar panels to provide electricity for the container. Mobile food units will be able to use the site for events. DB could not understand why Freestyle hadn't foreseen this being an issue.

The Christmas tree and street Christmas lights are being delivered next week with the switch on taking place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 4.00pm.

### **6.2 Thurnscoe Park (Pauline Phillips)**

There was a lovely memorial service in the park on Remembrance Sunday. There are concerns that we might be losing the local Branch of the British Legion.

There has been lots of anti-social behaviour in the park recently.

£200 has been spent on a memorial planter from Markham Grange garden centre.

Every Thursday Twiggs helps with maintenance in the park. The composting of autumn leaves has been the concentration of everybody's work recently.

The group received £2k from the Covid Support Fund. £1.6k has been spent on new tools for the group and some roses are arriving and will be planted late Nov/early Dec.

### **6.3 Station House (Charlotte Williams)**

The playgroup and after school clubs are running as usual. The numbers are increasing, especially at the after-school club, as parents are coming off furlough and finding new jobs, which is good news.

Vicky ran a Uniform Fairy event at the centre which went down well.

There was a Healthy Holidays programme on 3 full days in half term for ages 5 – 11. This was full and there was even a waiting list.

### **6.4 Salvation Army (Jackie Kenning)**

Jackie and Alison are very busy, and they are currently working on the following:

- the Victory Programme has started back up face to face. Two ladies under the age of 21 are coming and they are being taught cooking skills.
- currently offering debt advice to two clients and there is an increase in those wanting budgeting advice. They offer budgeting advice as part of the Victory Programme, but some budgeting training courses would be good. It was suggested that the Rainbow Centre might have capacity to run some training courses and debt advice as they have recently lost the History Group who used to meet there. Rotherham College are also looking at some training courses.
- helping people to put in applications for Community Shop.
- they have found some people are selling on food given out in food parcels. It is predominantly single males so now these are being given the lower value food, so they don't make so much from it and making it less worth their while.
- Supporting families this Christmas, but they are waiting for families to come to them or referrals from other agencies, rather than going out to families themselves. They will be giving out presents on 15<sup>th</sup> Dec.
- have received funding from BMBC for fuel poverty and funding for white goods for those in crisis. They have helped about 15 families in the last 3 -4 months with white good and furniture. They order these directly and they are delivered and need to be signed for. If families are given the money, they would spend it on other things.
- hoping that their outdoor furniture will arrive next week so that people can sit outside in the garden area if they prefer.
- holding tabletop sales for both men and women in the coming weeks and a jumble sale tomorrow for new or nearly new presents for Christmas and selling cakes for Children in Need and the Salvation Army.
- working with Centre Point to help young people in crisis.

- working with carer support and Darryl to signpost people for help with mental health issues. They have seen an increase in 20–40-year-olds suffering from mental health issues often because of family issues.
- this year saw the biggest harvest donation they have ever received.
- When working with families they are ever mindful of the fact many families don't want others to know they are struggling financially so they are always discreet.
- They are looking at somewhere they can give food out from in Thurnscoe and Bolton-upon-Deerne as some families struggle to get to Goldthorpe. Again, the Rainbow Centre was mentioned, and they would also be room at the Family Centre.
- Finally, instead of giving out Christmas cards this year, how about considering a donation to the Salvation Army.

**6.5 Dearne Memorial Group (Peter Shields)**

There were 250 plus people at the Remembrance Day Service at the Park and £67.07 was raised for the Poppy Appeal. Peter gave a brief update regarding the issue of cars turning around mid-road near the Astrea school, the Police are aware of this, but little been done to support the dangers of stopping cars doing uturns in the middle of the street. The memorial for the babies in unmarked communal graves in Penistone is going ahead.

**7. AOB**

Marie reminded the WA members about the new area priorities for 2022 was discussed with members all updated on the completion of the action plan to be worked through in the New Year. Marie will send out individual meeting requests to ensure all WA members have the chance to give their input form their group and also them as an individual.

**8. Date & Time of next meeting**

Due to the Area Teams capacity, MS asked if the Dearne North WA would like to join with the Dearne South WA for a joint online meeting which will be a Christmas quiz. All agreed so the next meeting will be on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 11am on Teams. Marie will be handing our goody bags for all members to take part in a quiz and online fun Christmas celebrations.

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**BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
DEARNE AREA COUNCIL**

**Report of the  
Dearne Area Council Manager**

**Update on Dearne North and South Ward Alliance Fund Spend**

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

1.1 This report seeks to inform Members about spend to date from Ward Alliance Funds within the Dearne North Area.

**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1 That the Dearne Area Council receives the Dearne North and South Ward Alliance Fund Report and notes any spend to date for the Dearne North and South Ward.**

**3.0 Introduction**

3.1 This report is set within the context of decisions made with regards to Ward Alliance Fund arrangements (Cab16.1.2013/10.3).

3.2 In considering projects for the use of the Ward Alliance Funds, Members are satisfied that the projects identified meet a recognised need for the Ward, are in the wider public interest, and represent value for money.

**4.0 Spend to date**

4.1 The Dearne North Ward Alliance starting balance for the 2021/22 financial year was £10,182.92 this includes the underspend of £182.92 from the 2020/21 budget. To date they have provided funds to 5 projects at a cost of £6,880.00 leaving a balance of 3,302.92

The Dearne South Ward Alliance starting balance for the 2021/22 financial year was £11,317.72 this includes the underspend of £1317.72 from the 2020/21 budget. To date they have provided funds to 4 projects at a cost of £5,500 leaving a balance of £5,817.72

**5.0 Appendix**

**Appendix One: Breakdown of Dearne North and South Ward Alliance Spend**

**Officer:**  
Claire Dawson  
Dearne Area Council Manager

**Tel:**  
07741168798

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022

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## 2021/22 WARD FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

For 2021/22 each Ward had an allocation of £10,000 Ward Alliance Fund.

The carry-forward and overspend of the 2020/21 Ward Alliance Fund were combined and added to the 2021/22 Allocation and to be managed as a single budget.

### Dearne North Ward Alliance budget

For the 2021/22 financial year the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

£10,000 base allocation + CF £182.92 **£10,182.92 total available funding**

<u>App no.</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Project end date</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Allocation remaining</u>
001	Bulky Rubbish referral scheme	31.03.2022	£2000.00	£8,182.92
002	Hanging Baskets on Goldthorpe High Street (shortfall to match funding)	31.10.2021	£300.00	£7,882.92
003	Hickleton Main Welfare Bowling Club	31.12.2021	£2200.00	£5,682.92
004	Shaw Alliance	31.12.2021	£693.00	£4,989.92
005	Thurnscoe Institute Cricket Club	31.12.2021	£1000.00	£3,989.92
	Recredit Shaw Alliance (monies no longer required)		£693.00	£4,682.92
006	Community Notice Board – Hanover Street play area Thurnscoe East	31.12.2021	£1380.00	3,302.92

**Total spend = £6880.00**

**Match funded = £3200.00**

### Dearne South Ward Alliance budget

For the 2021/22 financial year the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

£10,000 base allocation + CF £1317.72 from 2020/21 **£11,317.72 total available funding**

<u>App no.</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Project end date</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Allocation remaining</u>
001	Bulky Rubbish referral scheme	March 2022	£2000.00	£9,317.72
002	Hanging baskets on Goldthorpe & Bolton on Dearne shopping	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2021	£300.00	£9,017.72
003	Dearne Sports Bowling Club	September 2021	£2000.00	£7,017.72
004	Angling For All (equipment for youth angling group)	August 2022	£1200.00	£5,817.72

**Total spend= £5,500**

**Match funded = £3200.00**

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# Findings Report

**What's on your mind?**

Talk to us or complete online



# 2021

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## Dearne Area Council

Dearne North, Dearne South

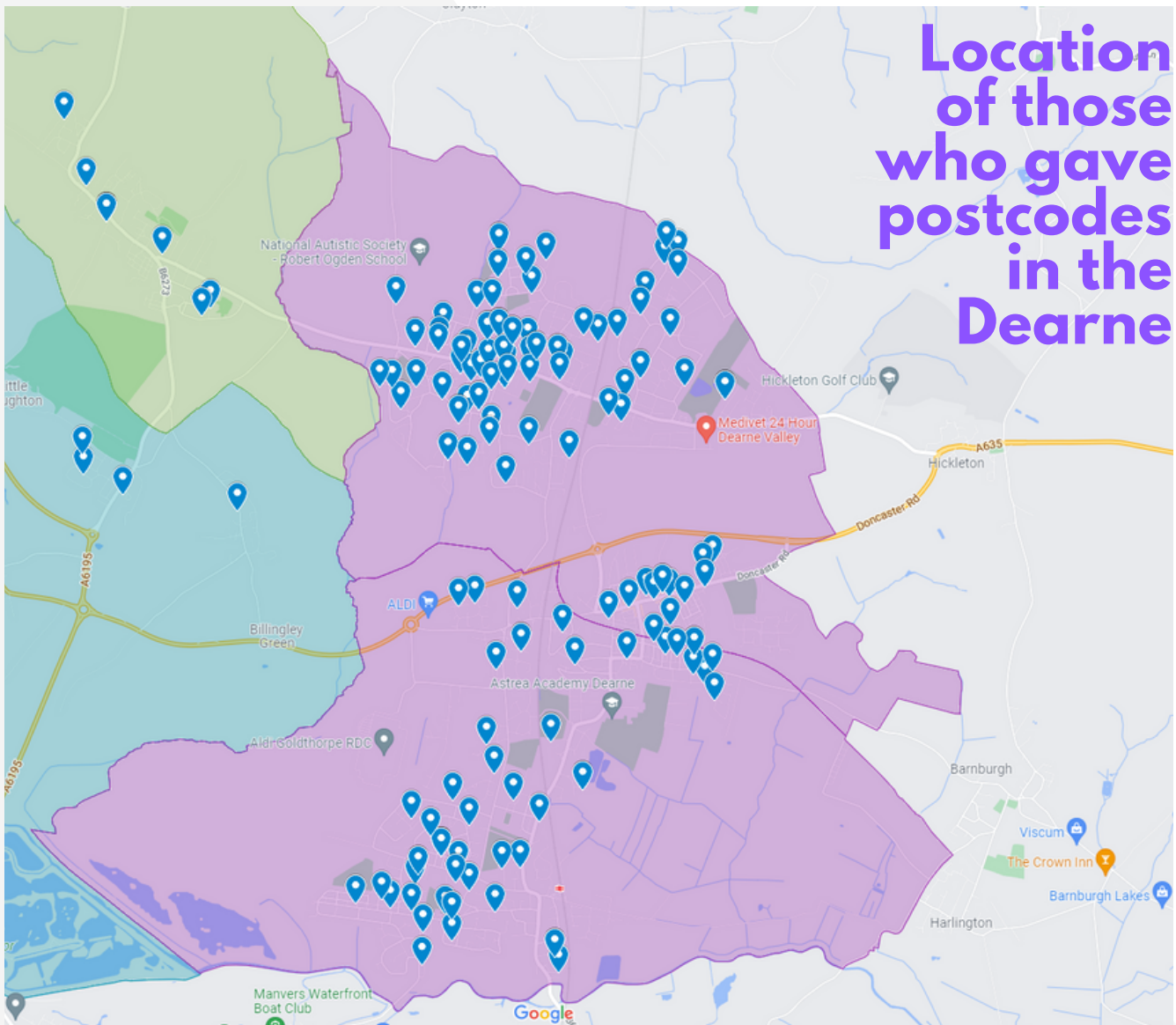
# Introduction

**234**  
**People took part in the Dearne. More than any other area**

Over the summer the Dearne Area Team held Community Listening sessions. A series of events to get a conversation going about people's feelings and the challenges they face because of the pandemic.

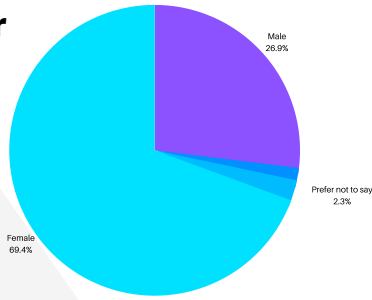
The conversations and online survey were part of a wider exercise that took place across Barnsley by Stronger Communities staff.

The responses were given in long-form free text meaning a level of interpretation, categorisation and analysis was needed. Where possible answers were matched to the same categories used by the Dearne Area Council and Ward Alliances.

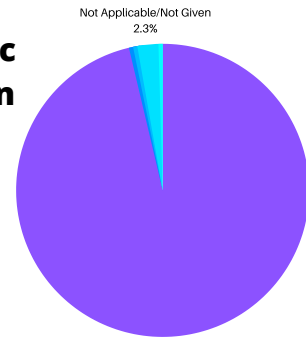


# Demographics

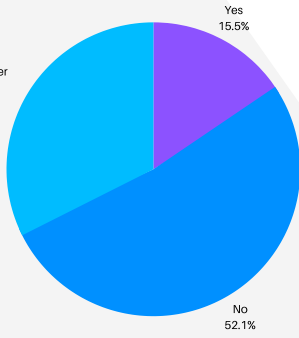
## Gender



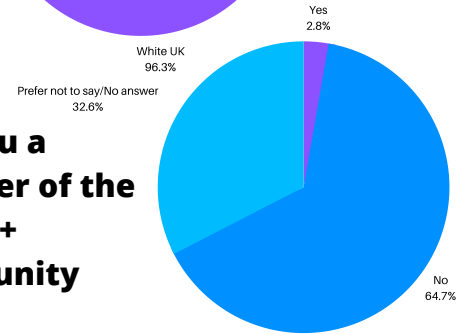
## Ethnic Origin



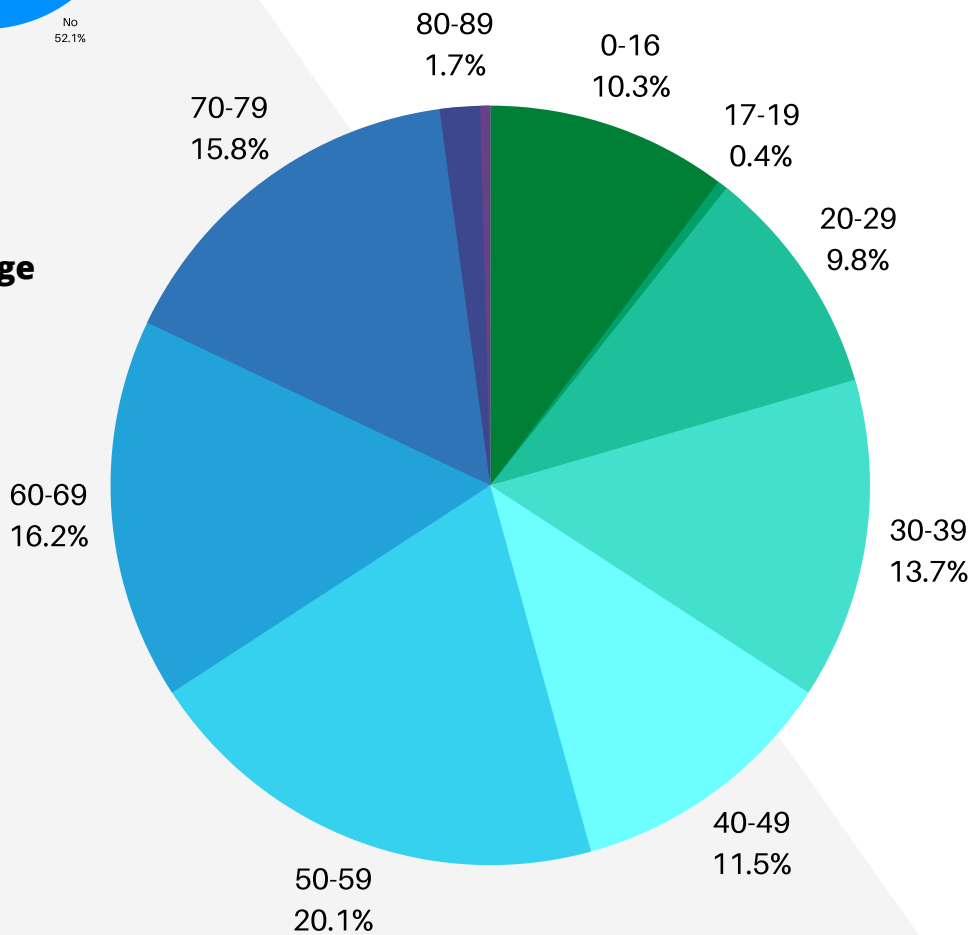
## Do you consider yourself to have a disability



## Are you a member of the LGBTQ+ community



## Age



A good range of ages took part with the majority (60%) being aged between 20-69. Also, the spread of ages was good with no one age group dominating allowing a representative collection of views.

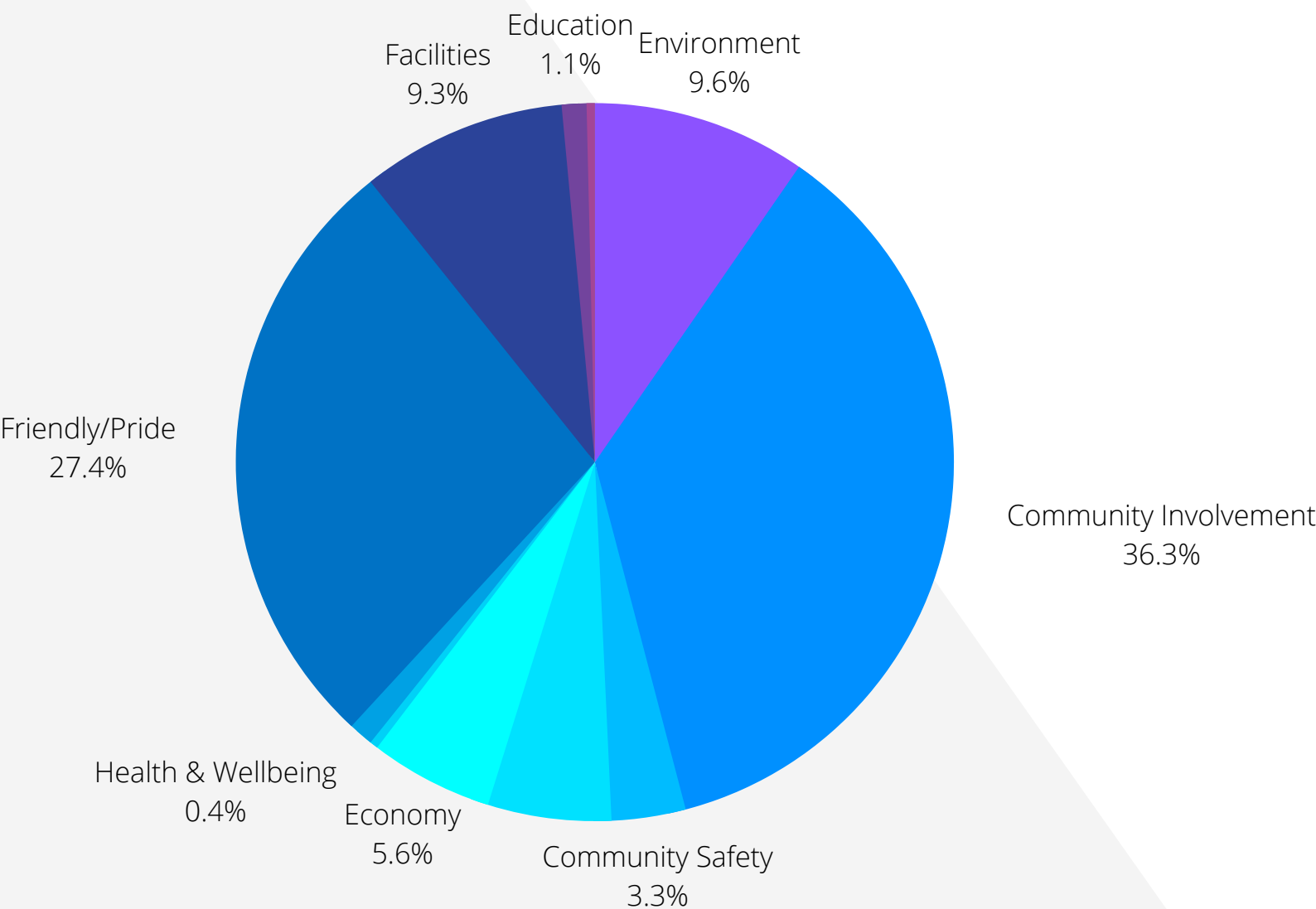
However, the majority of those taking part were female (69.4%) and minority groups were underrepresented. Possible because the focus was collecting as many views as possible rather than targeting specific groups.

# Question One

## What do you love about your community?

People's answers to this question mostly focused on other people. They enjoy the fact that the community is tight knit, friendly and people are willing to help each other. Community spirit was used often in people's responses showing there is a lot of support for each other.

People also value the green spaces, parks and nearby countryside as well as the facilities. Which in this case referred to the community centres, activities available and sporting opportunities nearby.

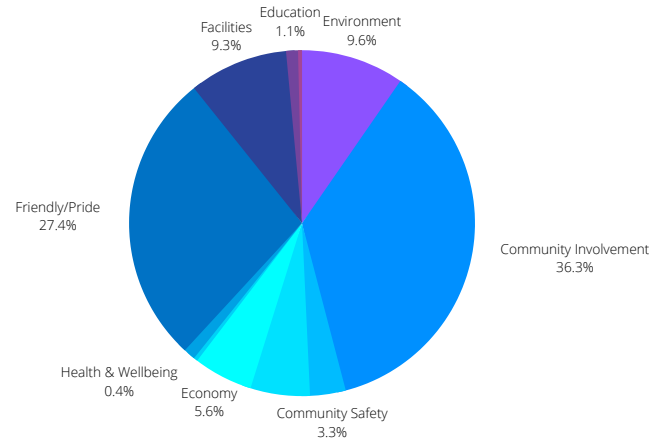




# Question One

## Examples

Here is a look at the responses that made up each category.



### Community Involvement 36.3%

"people pulling together in bad times"

"i love the effort people put in to making it a better place"

"people are decent and supportive when fundraising"

"community stick together"

"the amount of people who do truly care and take part"

"tight knit community feel amongst most people"

### Friendly/Pride 27.4%

"how people all come together and the community spirit"

"friendly community"

"most people are very very friendly"

"the pride local residents have"

"people of Thurnscoe are very friendly. i can walk through with lots of people to talk to"

"people are always friendly as a rule always ready for a chat"

### Environment 9.65%

"open spaces, biodiversity"

"the rezza"

"parks flowers and exploring"

"there's lots of parks and a lot of places to go out, wildlife and nature"

"green spaces anything outdoor I love"

### Facilities 9.3%

"Hickleton bowling green, played from 7 years old"

"things that are being created for people to us"

"group meetings for OAP in the rainbow centre"

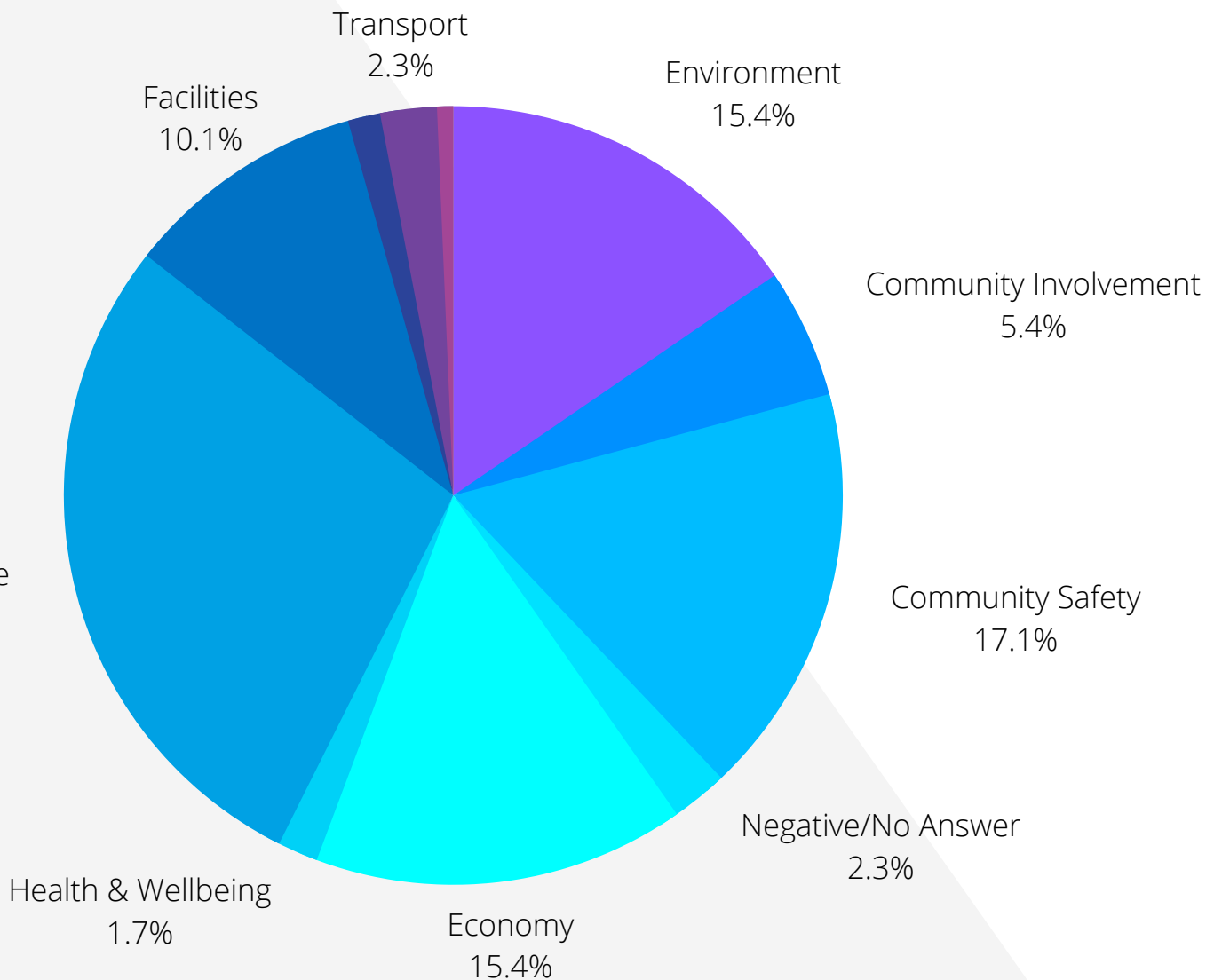
"plenty of interesting things for pensioners"

# Question Two

## What is needed now and in the future in your community?

There seems to be concern over opportunities for young people and some concern about how they spend their time. This is linked to the community safety responses which included crime, antisocial behaviour, policing comments. Often if young people were mentioned people would also link 'giving them something to do' with a reduction in violence, vandalism or antisocial behaviour.

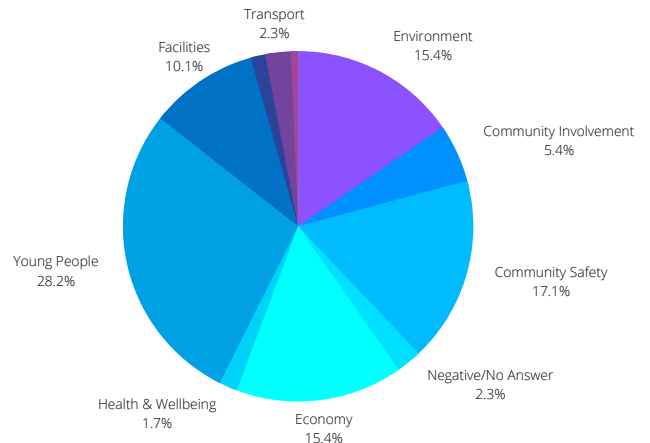
People also want the economy to improve this included shops, jobs, positive development comments. Environmental comments focused on litter and keeping things tidy.



# Question Two

## Examples

Here is a look at the responses that made up each category.



## Young People 28.2%

"more things in place for children such as playing parks, skate parks"

"young people to be involved in everything that goes on. we need to use every opportunity to engage them"

"something for children to do"

"more money spending on projects for the kids to do"

"somewhere for the teenagers to call their own place"

"more activities for the younger generation to keep them occupied"

## Community Safety 17.1%

"More Police to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour. Stop children damaging/trespassing on people's property"

"more police community support officers"

"more police to stop lads been pests"

"help with antisocial behaviour"

"visibility policing especially ASB groups of youths hanging around investment in our green spaces"

"more police presence"

"more police presence and cameras"

## Environment 15.4%

"more communal green spaces, additional bins"

"clean up Thurnscoe its like one big dust bin"

"less rubbish, less pollution"

"smashed glass on mansion fields. cleaner streets. big problem with litter. young people need educating on litter."

"more green space and family space"

"more bins"

## Economy 15.4%

"A local job Centre for people to seek employment face to face not online"

"new shops for new jobs"

"more local businesses supporting the other local businesses"

"Goldthorpe used to be a busy town with lots of shops and a market,

"a good supermarket"

would be nice to see to busy again"

"jobs and more pride"

# Question Three

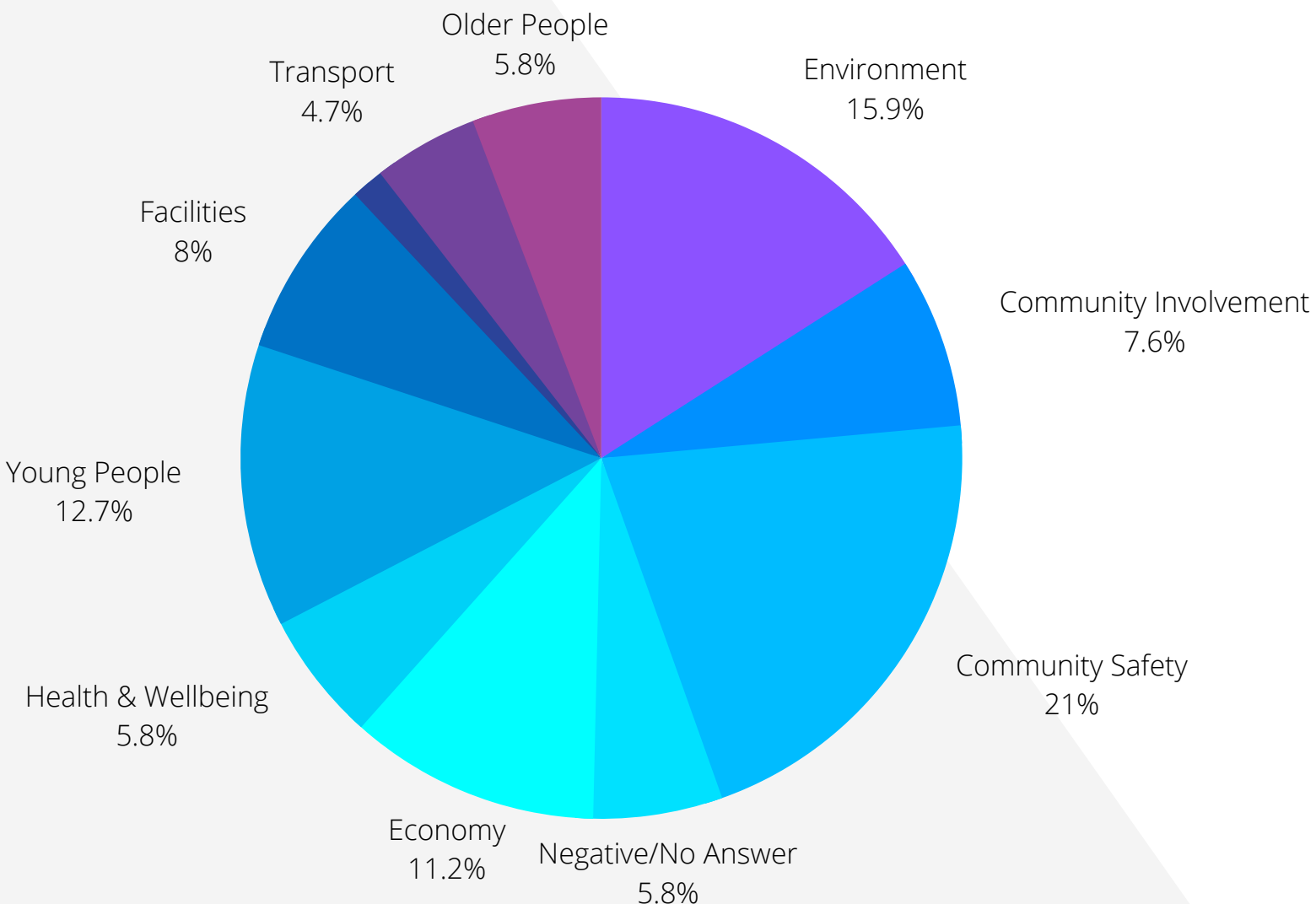
## What would add to the quality of life in your community?

While this question seems similar to question two most people answered it differently. The focus of responses shifted from immediate problems to longer term with some suggestions about how to solve those issues.

Broadly they were on the same themes. With people still talking about safety issues, youth activities and intimidation of groups of youths.

There was also a keen interest in keeping the current green spaces clean and tidy while also continuing to invest in parks and facilities in and close to them.

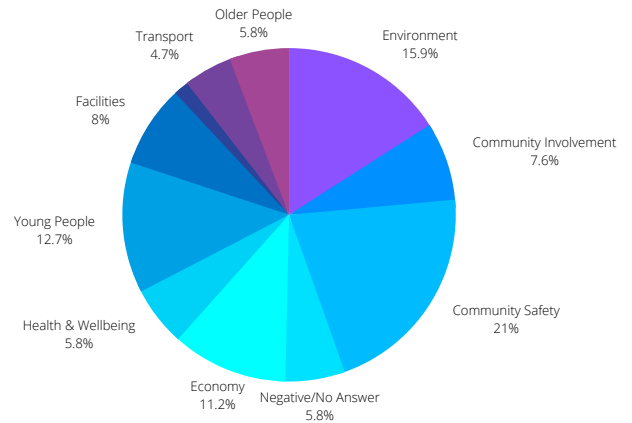
People were also keen that jobs and the highstreets were not forgotten about seeing them as vital to keeping the community vibrant.



# Question Three

## Examples

Here is a look at the responses that made up each category.



### Community Safety 21%

"less crime and more police involvement or being around on patrol more"

"feeling that I could go to bed and not worry what is going to be robbed"

"police attending anti-social behaviour"

"police presence. frightened to go on the streets"

"drugs removed motorbikes and quads removed anti social gangs removed"

"less vandalism, more police"

"being able to go out in the village without been nervous and afraid of groups of young people"

### Environment 15.9%

"if people picked up their litter and dog foul. more care for green and outdoor spaces"

"more green spaces"

"more areas to relax, sit and talk"

"cleaner streets, better roads, brighter shopping centre"

"cleaner areas and less boarded up houses"

"improved parks"

"more outdoor spaces that are safe and open to all"

### Young People 12.7%

"more out of school activities for the youth"

"not having to travel to other areas for youth services/amenities"

"helping the children and giving them something to do"

"we need to keep the kids under control with more things for them to do."

"gangs of youths been dispersed, motorbikes and quads stopped"

"just get unsocial youths sorted"

### Economy 11.2%

"see small businesses back up and running"

"more vibrant high street with cafes allowed to spread out onto the pavements create a continental cafe culture"

"more retailers"

"new businesses food places - food around the world"

"more housing that is cheap and affordable for young generation"

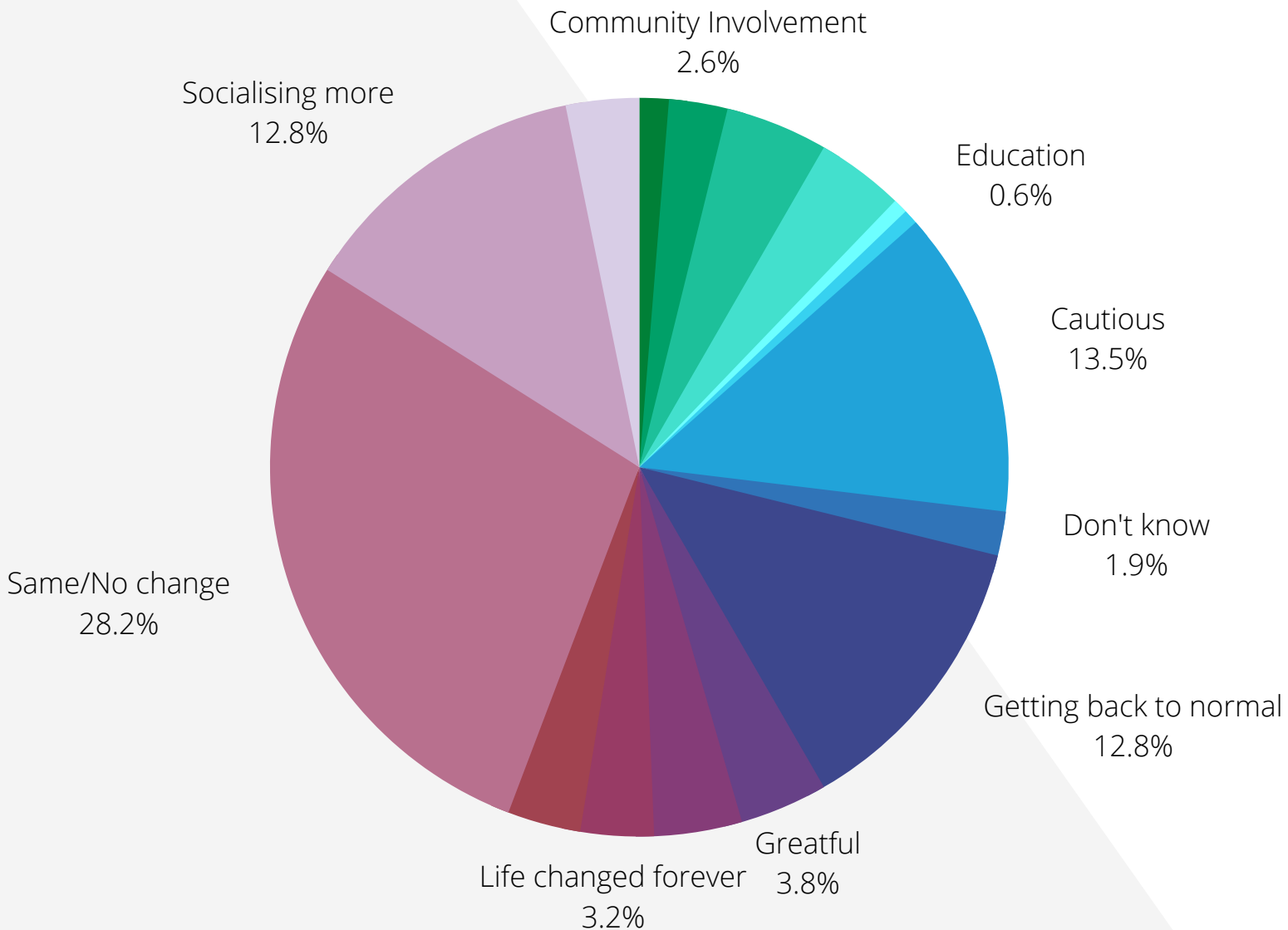
"job opportunities"

# Question Four

## Looking forward how will your life be different as a result of COVID-19?

With this question, most people gave answers that reflected their own personal circumstances rather than think about the community as a whole. As a result, the answers did not fit into the categories used in the other questions.

The answers reflected where people were in the summer after around 18 months of restrictions. The general themes were around continuing as they had done through the pandemic and returning to 'normal'. Although some were still going to be cautious. This is likely because around the time of the survey the wearing of mandatory face coverings was dropped and other restrictions (e.g. 2 metre rule) but still advised causing some confusion.



# Question Four

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## Examples

Due to the nature of answers here is a sample of responses

"everything is different after spending 18 months in the house"

"nothing, learn to live with it"

"I will be ensuring to see and interact with more people"

"spending more time together as a family"

"i will be more careful"

"hopefully business will pick up again"

"life back to normal and safe"

"everyone should still be cautious but get back to normal"

"it won't be as I work in care, so worked all way through it"

"reluctant to get rid of masks but would like somewhere to go"

"just carry on the same"

"adapting to future customers shopping habits"

"embrace life more. get out and spend time with family and friends"

"Not that different now things are returning to some sort of normality"

"taking advantage of getting out and about more in the local area"

"struggling at times with anxiety"

"no difference"

"working from home on a permanent basis"

"just the same as it is now"

"appreciate the smaller things, open spaces and more time for family"

"to travel to different parts of the country and abroad "

"I now only work in the office 2 days a week and 3 days at home"

"I've had to sell my business"

"never take anything for granted"



# Conclusions

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The response to Community Listening was very positive with lots of individuals taking part and in some cases giving detailed answers which covered a range of issues. While the conversations and survey has limitations they gave us an opportunity to re-engage with the general public, introduce and promote the role of the Dearne Area Team, Area Council and Ward Alliance. It also gave the team to physically work together after staff changes and the limitations of the pandemic.

The answers reveal that the people, community and the sense of togetherness are the main things that individuals like about the area. While there is a broad range of things that people think are needed to improve the community people are concerned about crime, antisocial behaviour, policing. They feel the root cause of these issues is the lack of activities for the youth.

People would also like to see the commitment to the environment continue, investment in the economy including jobs and retail. While it was not one of the top responses mental health issues also featured in questions three and four staff felt it is likely that more targeted questions around this issue would reveal this to be a more significant concern.

While some of the issues raised go beyond the remit and scope of Area Team, Area Council and Ward Alliance they can form part of the focus of future work. The results will also help when influencing Barnsley Council colleagues and partner agencies about the concerns and feelings for people in the Dearne.

